Al Capp's
LI'L ABNER
JOINS THE NAVY!

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Here is a little book that will delight thousands of LI'L ABNER fans. The predicaments confronting a certain acquaintance of LI'L ABNER, who joins the Navy, are in the highest traditions of Dogpatch humor.

Al Capp is at his inventive best in the story, and highly entertaining. But accompanying the light treatment is a serious message from Mr. Capp, which the Navy feels is vitally important to every American.

It will be most important, perhaps, to the young man or woman now seeking a rewarding career.

This book may turn out to be a useful, if not precise, guide to one such career. The experiences of LI'L ABNER's friend in the Navy may not be typical, but they do reflect the great spirit of comradeship and adventure that have always made Navy careers interesting to young men.

And it is equally true that if LI'L ABNER should eventually decide to forsake the hills of Dogpatch, he would find an unparalleled opportunity to lead a life of security as a trained technician in the service of his country, in the United States Navy.

F. B. C. Martin
F. B. C. MARTIN
Captain, U. S. Navy
Director, Recruiting Division

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Al Capp's

LI'L ABNER JOINS THE NAVY!

WHAR WE GOIN' SO FAST, MAMMY?

WE'RE GOIN' T' PAY A SOSHUL CALL ON THET VARMINT, AL CAPP! NAMELY T' FIND OUT WHY HE'S ACKIN' SO PEEKOOLYAR!

THE YOKUMS AND DAISY MAE ARRIVE AT AL CAPP'S STUDIO AND RECEIVE A **HEARTY** (??) WELCOME....

SLAM

KEEP OUT!- I'M BUSY!

?-GULP!-BUT, MISTAH CAPP, SUH—IT'S **US**—TH' **YOKUMS**—YORE **OWN FLESH AN' BLOOD!**-

AH SEEN TWO FELLAS GO IN—ONE OF 'EM LOOKIN' LIKE **DRAWIN'-BOARD McEASEL!**

NOW, WE WON'T BE INTERRUPTED! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, JACK?-
CLICK!!
AL, I KNEW YOU WERE INTERESTED IN REAL DRAWING TALENT... SO I WANT YOU TO MEET A PAL OF MINE - DRAWINGBOARD McEASEL!

HE'S NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT, AL, BUT HE WANTS TO BE AN ARTIST IN THE WORST WAY... AND I FIGURE WORKING FOR YOU IS THE WORST WAY TO BE AN ARTIST...

HE'S (CHOKE) GONNA CORNSIDER HIRIN' McEASEL T'DRAW (GULP) US, PAPPY!!
McEASEL (SHUDDER) CAIN'T EVEN DRAW FLEES, LET ALONE HANSOME HOOMIN' BEIN'S LIKE US!!

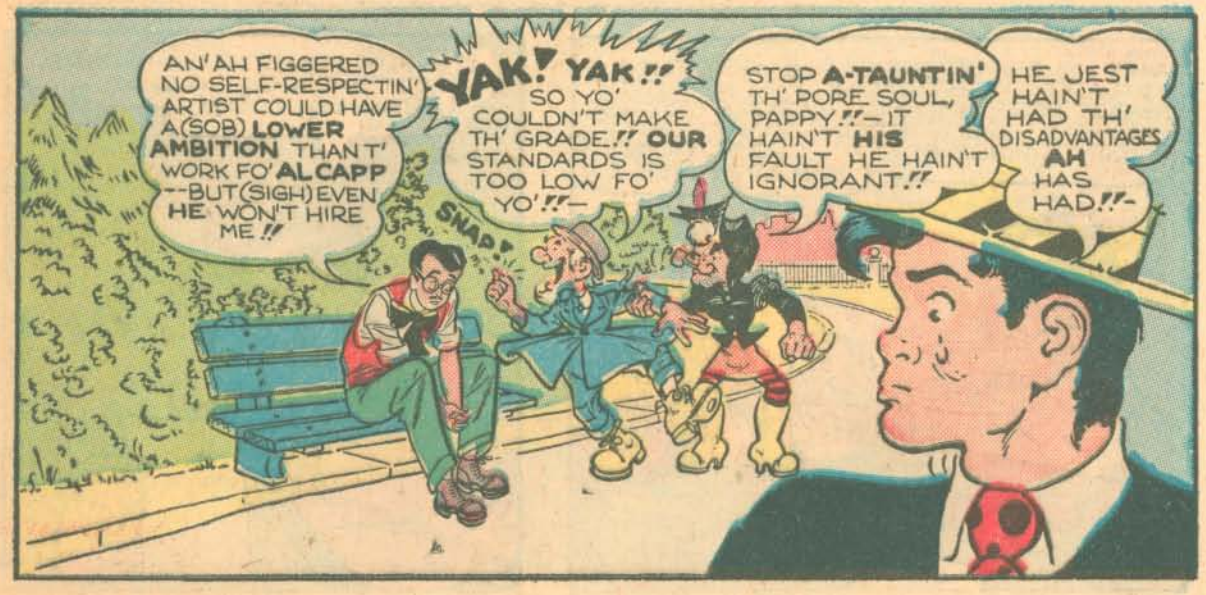
—HANDSOME, HEROIC AND CLEAN LIVING— AN IDEAL DOGPATCH CHARACTER!!-I HATE TO SEE HIM OUT OF WORK. CAN YOU USE HIM, AL ?
AH'LL WORK CHEAP, AND AH DON'T MIND LONG HOURS-
?!! GULP!- THET VARMINT IS AFTER MAH JOB!!!

TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF! HAVE YOU HAD ANY EDUCATION?
AH WAS THE FIRST DOG-PATCHER T' GRAD-U-ATE FUM KINDER-GARTEN, BEFO' MAH FIFTEENTH BIRTHDAY!!

ARE YOU ACCUSTOMED TO MOVING IN THE BEST OF SOCIETY?
OH, YAS, AH DO KNOW A FEW CARTOONISTS, O' COURSE-BUT MOST O' MAH FRIENDS ARE NICE PEOPLE-

AND NOW-ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL HABITS
I'LL VOUCH FOR HIM, AL!! - I'VE LIVED WITH HIM. SHAVES TWICE A DAY- CONSTANTLY SHOWERING- ALWAYS PERFECTLY GROOMED!!

NEVER MIND-I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!!- SORRY, McEASEL, I CAN'T USE YOU!!-YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT THE TYPE "LI'L ABNER" READERS ARE ACCUSTOMED TO!!-IF YOU WERE IGNORANT, UNSANITARY AND UNCOUTH, I MIGHT HAVE HAD A SPOT FOR YOU. SORRY!!-


AN' AH FIGGERED NO SELF-RESPECTIN' ARTIST COULD HAVE A(SOB) LOWER AMBITION THAN T' WORK FO' AL CAPP --BUT (SIGH) EVEN HE WON'T HIRE ME!!
YAK! YAK!! SO YO' COULDN'T MAKE TH' GRADE!! OUR STANDARDS IS TOO LOW FO' YO'!!-
SNAP!
STOP A-TAUNTIN' TH' PORE SOUL, PAPPY!!-IT HAIN'T HIS FAULT HE HAIN'T IGNORANT!!
HE JEST HAIN'T HAD TH' DISADVANTAGES AH HAS HAD!!-

MONTHS HAVE PASSED...
HYAR COME YOUNG EDDIE McSKONK, MAKIN' HIS WEEKLY DELIVERY O' TH' DAILY MAIL.
AH HOPE (CHOKE) THAR'S A LETTER FROM PORE UN-TALENTED DRAWIN'BOARD McEASEL!

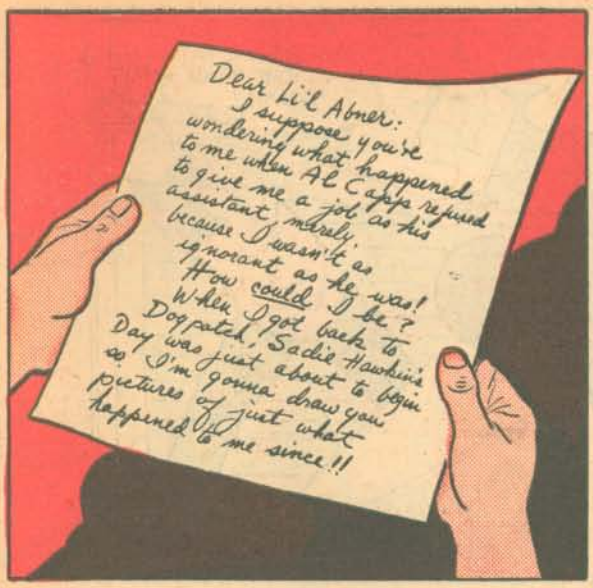
IT IS FUM DRAWIN'-BOARD!
THEN.....H-H-HE DIDN'T CORMIT SOO-Y-CIDE LIKE HE THREATENED HE WAS GOIN' T' DO!
U.S. MAIL

CAIN'T BE SURE, MAMMY—IT MAY BE THAT WHUT YO' IS HOLDIN' IS THE PORE CRITTUR'S LAST WILL AND TESTYMENT!

(GULP) IF IT IS HIS (CHOKE) LAST WILL AN' TESTY-MENT, THEN WE IS NO BETTER THAN (SOB) MURDERERS!
NO (CHOKE) BETTER, SON!

AIN'T NO SENSE SPOILIN' YER APPYTITES READIN' ABOUT PORE McEASEL—SO WE'LL HAVE A LI'L SNACK FIRST!!
JEST THINK-IN' ABOUT TH' PORE CRITTUR HAS (CHOMP-CHOMP) RUINT MAH APPYTITE!

IT'S FUM PORE DRAWIN'BOARD, AN' IT'S CHOCK FULL O' DRAWIN'S, TOO!!


Dear Li'l Abner:
I suppose you're wondering what happened to me when Al Capp refused to give me a job as his assistant, merely because I wasn't as ignorant as he was! How could I be? When I got back to Dogpatch, Sadie Hawkins Day was just about to begin so I'm gonna draw you pictures of just what happened to me since!!

"I WAS DRAWING AWAY THAT MORNING..."
THAT SOUNDED LIKE A SHOT... I WONDER...
BANG!

IT'S SADIE HAWKINS DAY! THAT MUST'VE BEEN THE STARTING GUN!!

SHE'LL BE ON MY TRAIL IN A MINUTE! IF I WANT TO STAY HAPPY AND SINGLE I'D BETTER...

THAR YO' BE, DRAWIN'-BOARD McEASEL! TALLY-HO!!
LANA TURNIP!! I'M A GONE GOOSE!

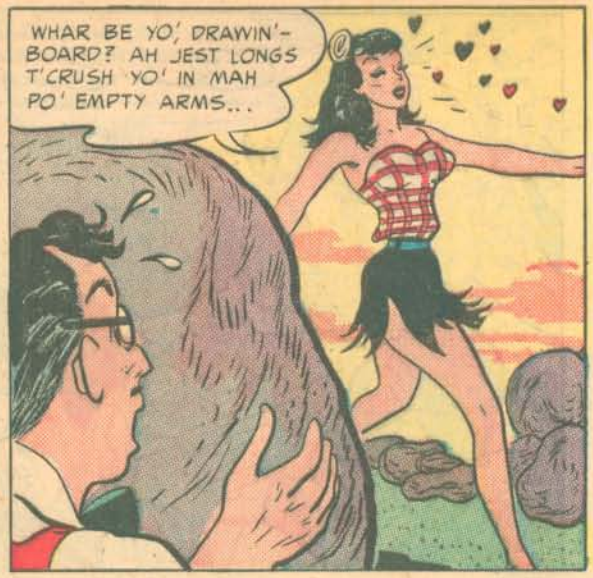
THIS Y'AR YO' WILL BE MINE, DRAWIN'BOARD! AH C'N HEAR TH' WEDDIN' BELLS RINGIN'!
WEDDIN' (GULP!) BELLS!!.. A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!

WHY DOES YO' RUN FUM ME, DRAWIN'BOARD? IS AH SO REPULSIVE TO YO'?

ALL WOMEN ARE REPULSIVE WHEN IT COMES TO MARRYIN' UP WITH THEM!

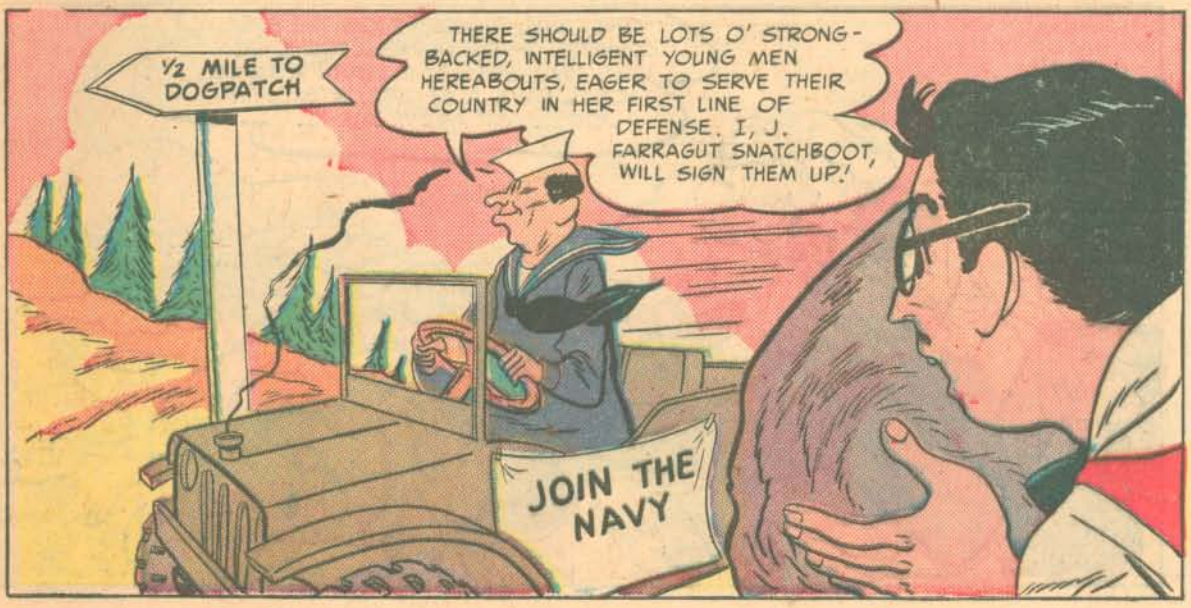
AH'LL TRY T'GROW LESS REPULSIVE TO YO' AS THE Y'ARS GO BY... DODOF!...

GOT A BIG ENOUGH HEADSTART (PUFF, PUFF).. I OUGHT TO BE SAFE HERE...


WHAR BE YO', DRAWIN'-BOARD? AH JEST LONGS T'CRUSH YO' IN MAH PO' EMPTY ARMS...

COME OUT, COME OUT, WHAREVAH YO' IS!!

I GUESS THE COAST IS CLEAR NOW... WONDER WHO THAT IS??


½ MILE TO DOGPATCH
THERE SHOULD BE LOTS O' STRONG-BACKED, INTELLIGENT YOUNG MEN HEREABOUTS, EAGER TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY IN HER FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE. I, J. FARRAGUT SNATCHBOOT, WILL SIGN THEM UP!
JOIN THE NAVY

THEY MUST HAVE HEARD I WAS COMING! THEY'RE FLOCKING TO ENLIST!
JOIN THE NAVY

GATHER ROUND ME GENTLEMEN, WHILE I TELL YOU ABOUT THE WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES THAT AWAIT YOU IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY, IF YOU CAN MEET HER HIGH STANDARDS...
LE'S GO MEN ... THEY IS-A-GAININ' ON US!

ADVENTURE BECKONS FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE... YOU'LL BE WELL PAID WHILE YOU LEARN A TRADE... YOU'LL HAVE A SECURE, INTERESTIN' JOB... AND ABOVE ALL...

ABOVE ALL, YOU'LL BE PROUD TO SERVE IN THE FINEST NAVY AFLOAT... ALWAYS READY... A WARNING TO ANY AGGRESSOR NATION TO KEEP THE PEACE...
AH'VE EXCAPED NEEDLENOSE NELL FO' SIXTY YEARS... OH (SOB!) AH'M SLOWIN' DOWN! SHE'LL KETCH ME (GROAN) THIS TIME FO' SHORE...

THAR THEY GOES!!
WHILE THE UNITED STATES NAVY IS STRONG (GASP!) NO NATION WILL DARE ATTACK US! (GULP!)...
JOIN THE NAVY

JOIN THE (GASP!) NAVY... JOHN PAUL JONES... BULL (GULP!) HALSEY...

ANCHORS AWEIGH... (GASP, GASP!)... DON'T GIVE UP THE (GAAAAASP!).. SHIP...

POOR FELLOW... HE JUST KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT WITH THAT RECRUITIN' SPEECH! SURE PICKED THE WRONG DAY FOR IT, TOO...
NAVY

WITH ALL THE MEN FLEEIN' THE (UGH!) HORRIBLE FATE O' MATRIMONY, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED T'LISTEN IF HE WAS RECRUITIN' ADMIRALS!

ADVENTURE (WHISPER) BECKONS FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE...

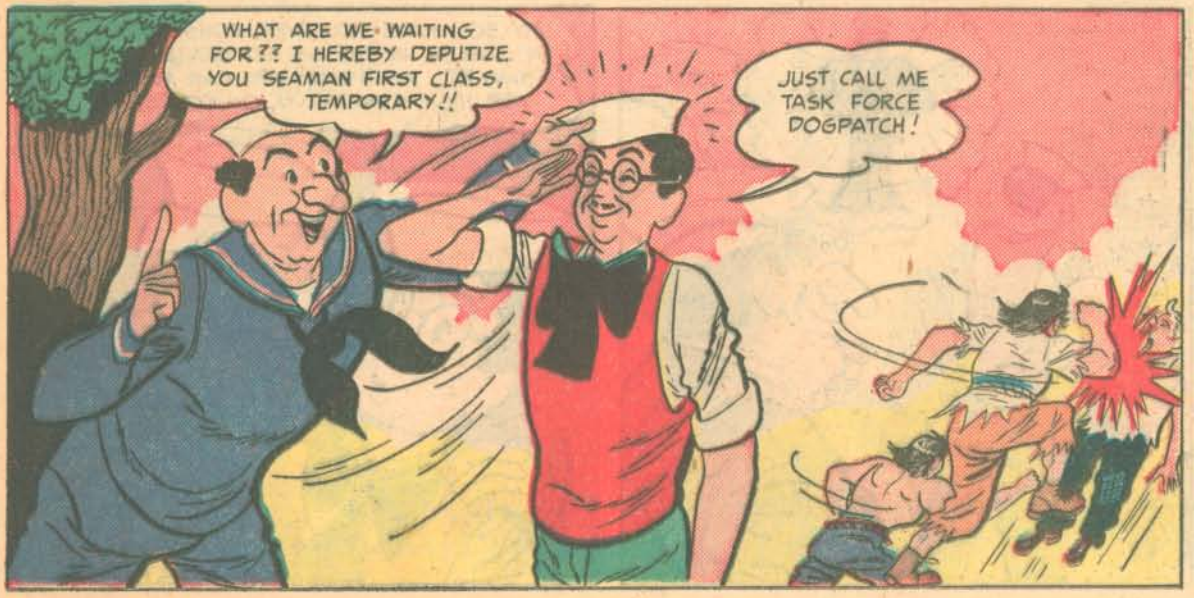
JOIN THE... HEY, WHAT HAPPENED!!??
YOU JUST TUCKERED YOURSELF CLEAN OUT WITH SPEECH-MAKIN', MISTER!

AND ON SADIE HAWKINS DAY, TOO. YOU DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE!
OOOH! (SOB!) NOT AGAIN! THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS WHEN I START TALKIN' ABOUT THE NAVY. I (GROAN!) HAVEN'T SIGNED UP A RECRUIT SINCE DECEMBER 7, 1941!

THE BOYS AT THE PENTAGON SAID THIS WAS MY (SIGH!) LAST CHANCE!
HALP!

RUN FO' YO' LIVES!! TH' SCREWBALLS IS ON TH' LOOSE AGIN!!!

WIF ALL TH' ABLE-BODIED MEN GONE, BOYS, WE DON'T HAVE T'FIGHT FO' WHUT WE WANTS-- JEST STEAL IT!
THASS WHY WE COMES T'DOGPATCH ON SADIE HAWKINS DAY!!
THE SCREWBALL BROTHERS! THE MOST NOTORIOUS CRIMINALS IN THESE PARTS!!!


WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?? I HEREBY DEPUTIZE YOU SEAMAN FIRST CLASS, TEMPORARY!!
JUST CALL ME TASK FORCE DOGPATCH!

THE NAVY ALWAYS CARRIES THE FIGHT TO THE ENEMY! WE PREFER TO FIGHT IN HIS BACKYARD, NOT OURS!!

LAY INTO 'EM, SON! REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!
NEVER KNEW A GAL BY THAT NAME, SUH...

KNEW A GAL HAIR-DRESSER NAME O' PEARL BARBER ONCE, THOUGH!

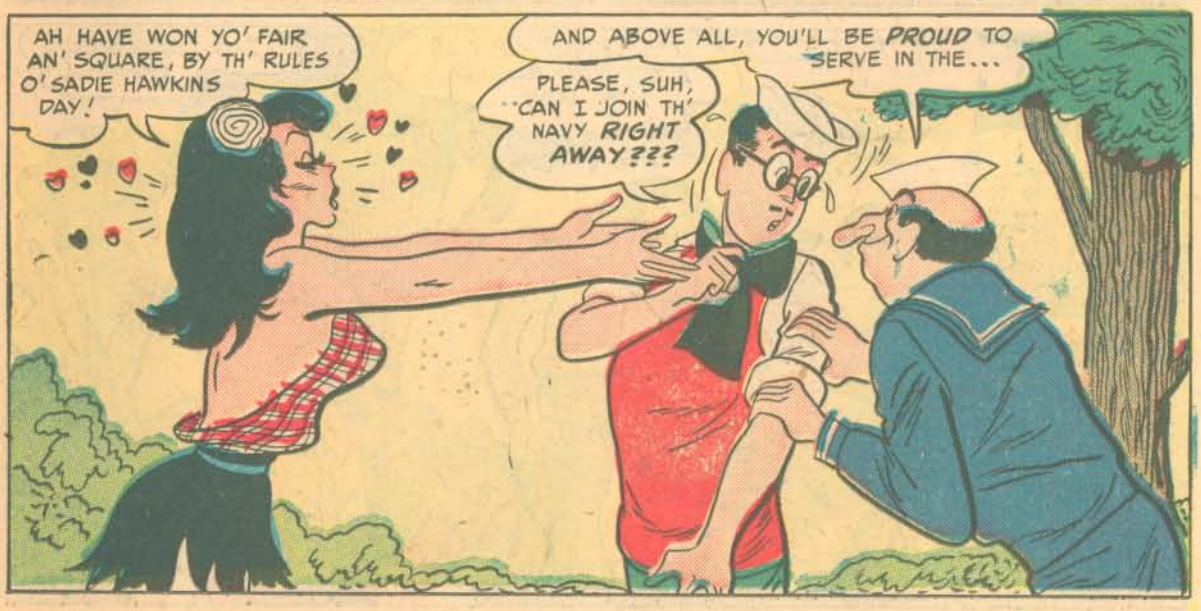
TASK FORCE DOGPATCH, YOUR MISSION IS COMPLETED!!

HMM...

MY BOY, HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A CAREER IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY??.. ASSUMING YOU CAN MEET HER HIGH STANDARDS, OF COURSE...

ADVENTURE BECKONS FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE... YOU'LL BE WELL PAID WHILE...

I'M A DEAD DUCK!!.. GOOD AS MARRIED!!
YOU LEARN A TRADE.. YOU'LL HAVE A SECURE, INTERESTIN' JOB...
THAR YO' BE DRAWIN'BOARD McEASEL!!!


AH HAVE WON YO' FAIR AN' SQUARE, BY TH' RULES O' SADIE HAWKINS DAY!
AND ABOVE ALL, YOU'LL BE PROUD TO SERVE IN THE...
PLEASE, SUH, CAN I JOIN TH' NAVY RIGHT AWAY???

FINEST NAVY AFLOAT.. CAN YOU WHAT??? OF COURSE!!!
THEN LET'S GO!!!
IN THE NAVY

AH MISSED HIM! (SOB) AH WERE ALMOS' MRS. DRAWIN'BOARD McEASEL!!

ANCHORS AWEIGH...ETC...
AH'LL HAVE T'JOIN TH' WAVES BEFO' NEXT SADIE HAWKINS DAY!!

OW! (SOB!) MUST BE A TORPEDO BASHED MAH JAW!..
HMM, NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
TH' YEWNITED STATES NAVY SHORE PACKS A WALLOP (GROAN!)

YOU FINE, UPSTANDIN' YOUNG MEN WOULD LIKE TO GET EVEN WITH THE U.S. NAVY, WOULDN'T YOU?
WE SHORE WOULD, MISTUH!!

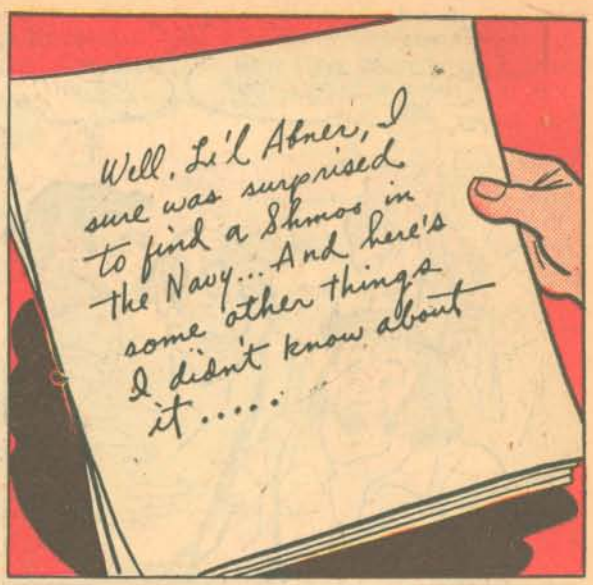
WELL, I CAN HELP YOU. I'M SVENGARLIC, FROM LOWER SLOBBOVIA, AND THIS IS MY ASSISTANT, MATTY HARRY.

YO'SHORE (SNIFF, SNIFF) LIVES UP T'YO' NAME, MR. GARLIC...
WE'S ALL SCREWBALLS, SO NATCHERLY WE'LL DO ANYTHIN' YO' SAYS, MA'M!

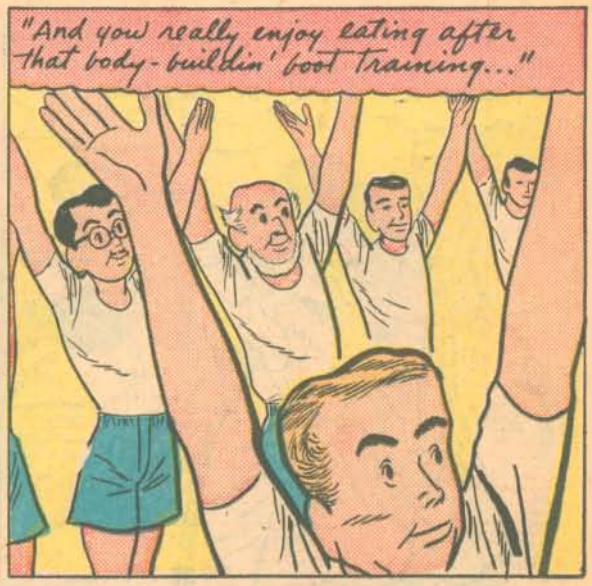
WHUT DOES WE DO FUST T'GET EVEN WIF TH' YEWNITED STATES NAVY?
FIRST WE HAVE TO HATCH A PLOT... NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY...

MEANWHILE...
SON, I WANT YOU TO MEET TWO OF YOUR NEW SHIPMATES. THIS IS SALTY McANCHOR.
NAVY TRAINING CENTER
MY BOY, I'VE BEEN IN THE NAVY SO LONG I'VE GOT SALT WATER ON BOTH KNEES... I'VE PASSED MORE LIGHT-HOUSES THAN MOST PEOPLE HAVE TELEGRAPH POLES...

AND THIS IS YOUR COMPANY MASCOT...
A SHMOO! HE MUST KNOW MY FRIEND LI'L ABNER!


Well, Li'l Abner, I sure was surprised to find a Shmoo in the Navy... And here's some other things I didn't know about it.....

"Man, the food! All you can eat, and the best of everything... Pork Chops, flapjacks, sweet potato, pie.. everything!"


"And you really enjoy eating after that body-buildin' boot training..."

"A few weeks of the Navy makes a big difference! Between the food and the training, they sure build men!"

"After boot training, a man can start learning any of the dozens of different, interesting trades. If he went to school for this, it would cost him plenty, but..."

RADIO OPERATORS

RADAR OPERATORS

AIRPLANE MECHANICS

BLINKER SIGNALLERS

"But in the Navy they teach him and pay him a good salary besides! The more he learns, the quicker he advances and earns more money."

"Of course I don't pay any attention to 'em, but you should see how the girls go for a man in a Navy uniform! Salty claims he not only has a gal in every port, he has one on every davenport..."

"There's time out for sports of every kind, and everybody can play if he wants to..."

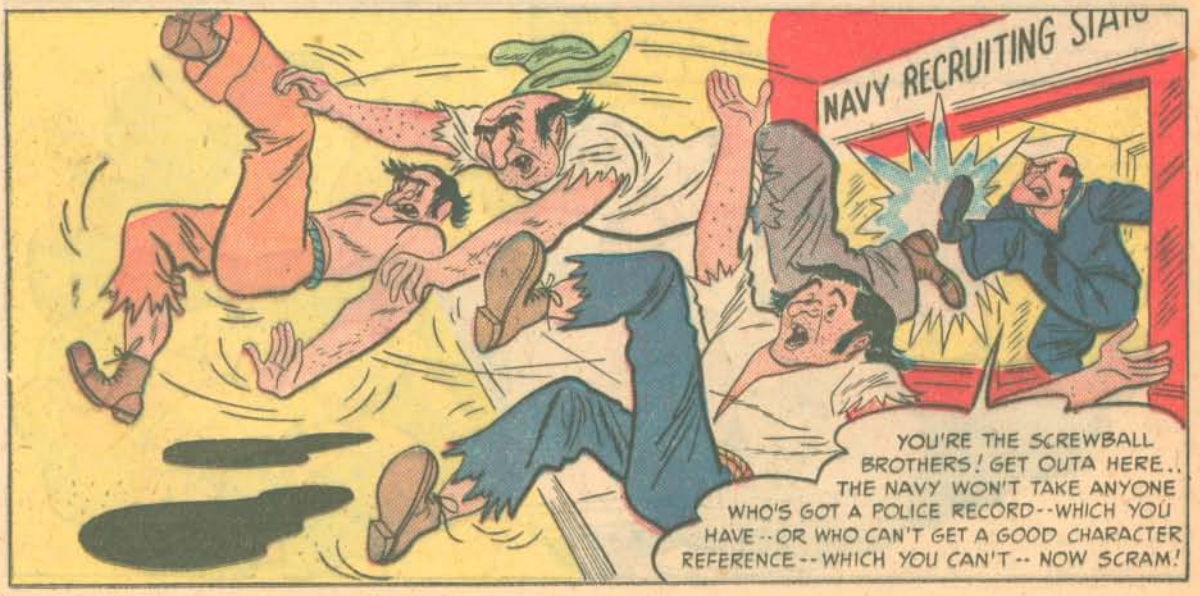
STRIKE!

"Our first cruise was to Hawaii. Boy, the scenery there is beautiful!"

When we got back..."
WELL, SON, WHERE YOU GOIN' TO SPEND YOUR LEAVE?
I'M TAKING OUR MASCOT BACK TO DOGPATCH TO SEE LI'L ABNER!
DRUGS

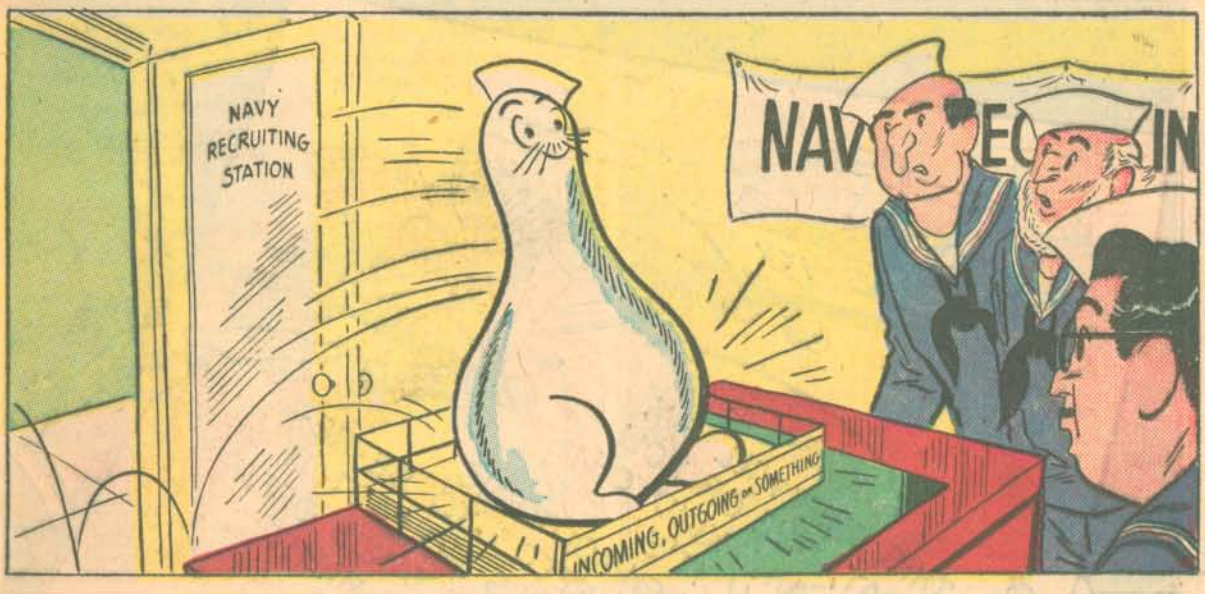
NOW YOU GO ON OVER THERE AND SIGN UP. THEN YOU CAN GET EVEN WITH THE NAVY BY BORING FROM WITHIN, SEE?
NAVY RECRUITING STATION
NAVY RECRUITING STATION
GROCER

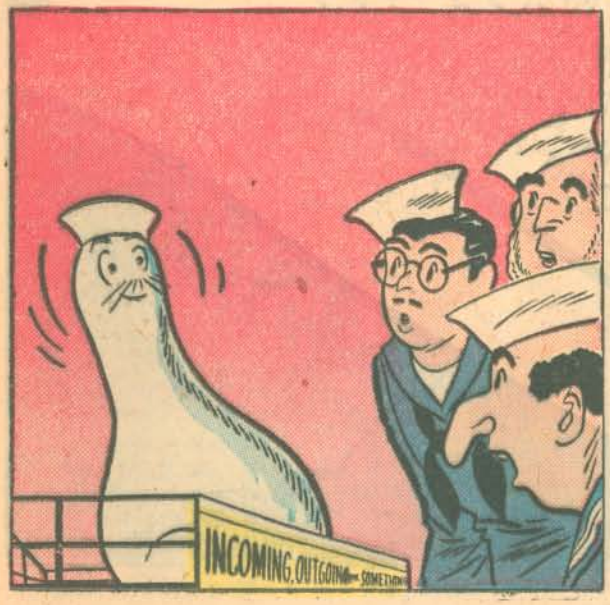
US THREE CLEAN CUT YOUNG AMERICANS WANTS T'JOIN UP WIF TH' NAVY!
SAY, I'VE SEEN YOU THREE BUMS BEFORE...
JOIN THE NAV

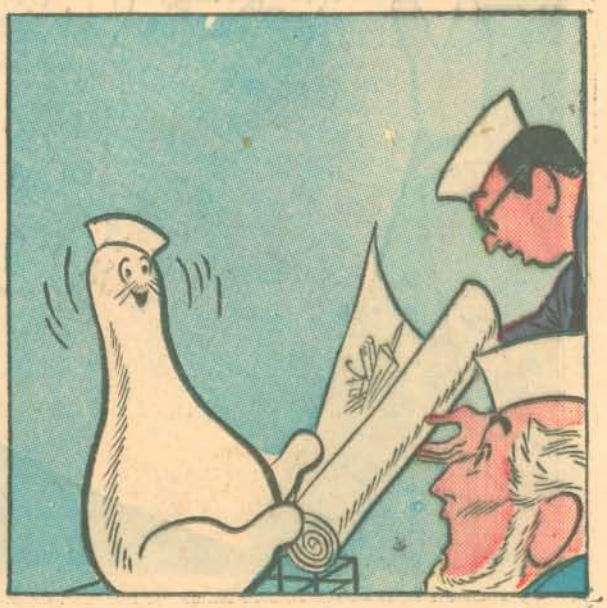

NAVY RECRUITING STATIO
YOU'RE THE SCREWBALL BROTHERS! GET OUTA HERE.. THE NAVY WON'T TAKE ANYONE WHO'S GOT A POLICE RECORD--WHICH YOU HAVE--OR WHO CAN'T GET A GOOD CHARACTER REFERENCE--WHICH YOU CAN'T -- NOW SCRAM!

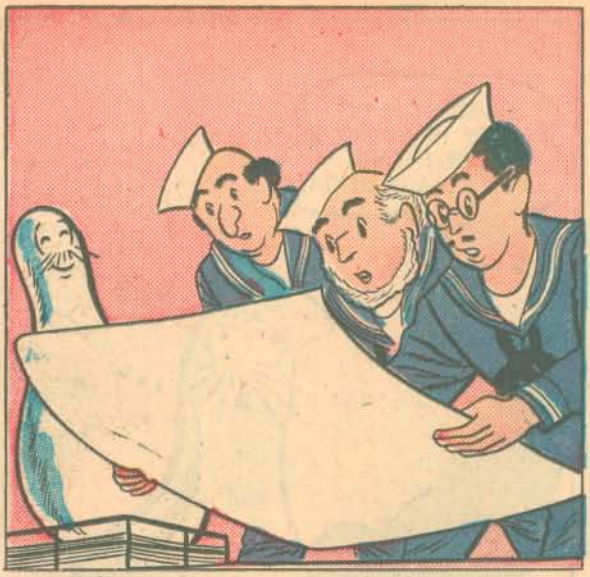
WELL, IF WE CAN'T BORE FROM WITHIN, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO STEAL THE PLANS!
WHUT PLANS IS THAT, MR. GARLIC?

SOMEONE IN THE NAVY IS BOUND TO BE LAYING SOME PLANS SOON!

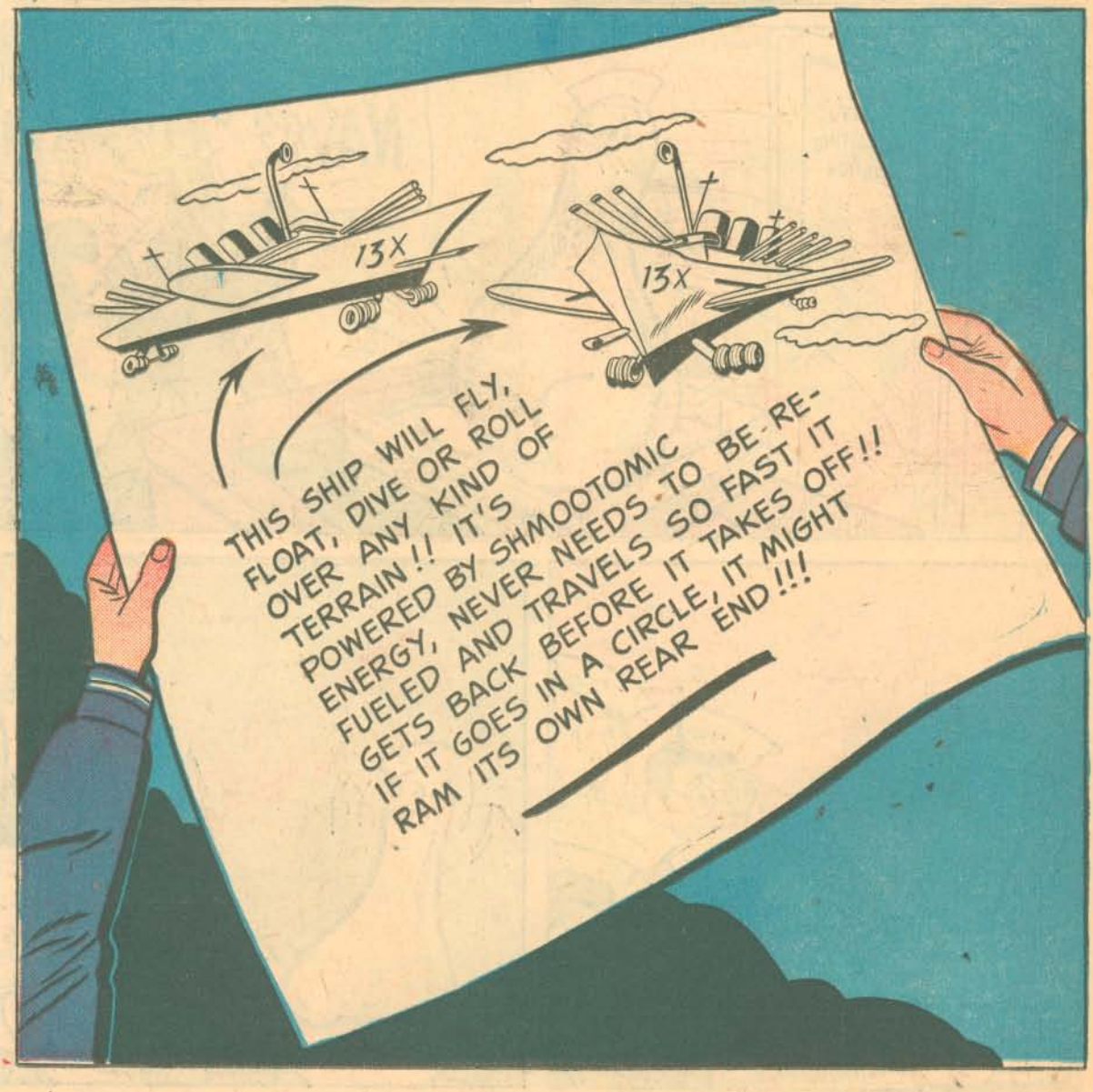

NAVY RECRUITING STATION
INCOMING, OUTGOING OR SOMETHING


INCOMING, OUTGOING OR SOMETHING





THESE ARE THE BEST-LAID PLANS I'VE EVER SEEN!
THEY'RE FOR A NEW BATTLE SHMOOZER!!!


13X
13X
THIS SHIP WILL FLY, FLOAT, DIVE OR ROLL OVER ANY KIND OF TERRAIN!! IT'S POWERED BY SHMOOTOMIC ENERGY, NEVER NEEDS TO BE RE-FUELED AND TRAVELS SO FAST IT GETS BACK BEFORE IT TAKES OFF!! IF IT GOES IN A CIRCLE, IT MIGHT RAM ITS OWN REAR END!!!

THESE PLANS ARE TOP SECRET STUFF! WHAT'LL WE DO WITH THEM?
WE'LL TAKE 'EM STRAIGHT TO THE PENTAGON FIRST THING TOMORROW!

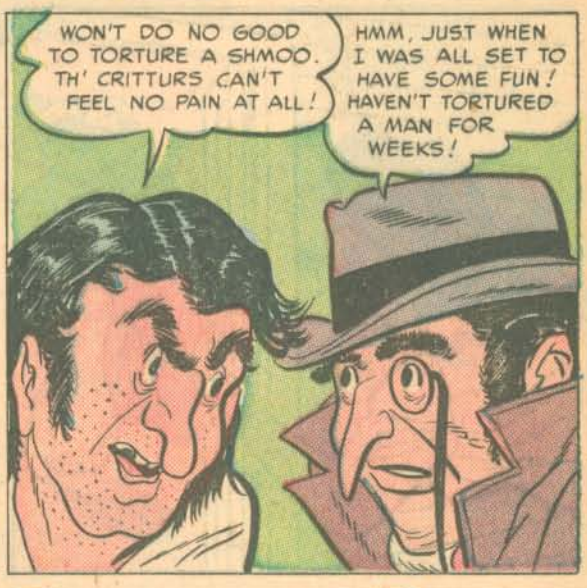
MEANWHILE THEY'LL BE SAFE HERE...

HEY!! HE'S GONE!

NO TELLING WHICH WAY HE WENT! WE'LL HAVE TO SPLIT UP AND START SEARCHING!!

MEANWHILE...
HERE'S A REAL SOFT LITTLE NEST... YOU GO AHEAD AND LAY US SOME NICE FRESH NEW PLANS LIKE A GOOD FELLOW!

WE'VE BEEN TREATING YOU NICE SO FAR... BUT THERE'S OTHER WAYS TO GET THOSE PLANS OUT OF YOU!


WON'T DO NO GOOD TO TORTURE A SHMOO. TH' CRITTURS CAN'T FEEL NO PAIN AT ALL!
HMM, JUST WHEN I WAS ALL SET TO HAVE SOME FUN! HAVEN'T TORTURED A MAN FOR WEEKS!

WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT... IT'S THE OLD RELIABLE METHOD.. TOO BAD, I WANTED TO DO THIS JOB THE HARD WAY FOR A CHANGE...

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, MATTY HARRY! McANCHOR SHOULD BE EASY, HE THINKS HE'S A BIG MAN WITH THE LADIES...
DON'T ALL SAILORS ??

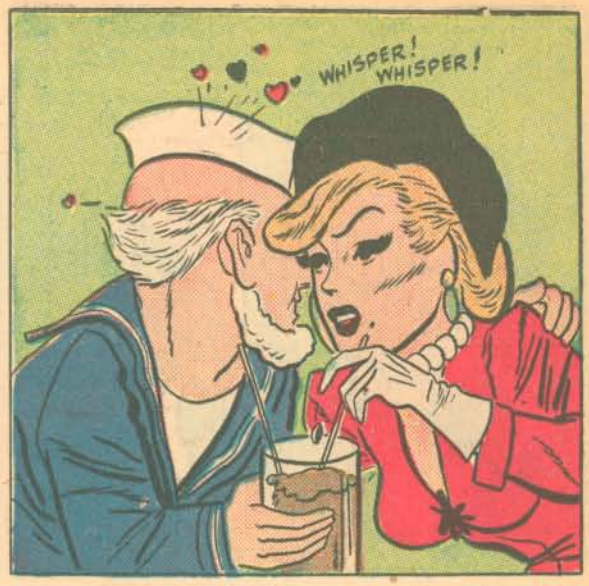
YOO HOO!! SHMOOO-O-O-O...

LOOKIN' FOR SOMEONE, TALL, DARK AND BOWLEGGED???

SAY, HAVEN'T I SEEN THAT SHAPE BEFORE??.. WASN'T IT IN SINGAPORE.. OR MARSEILLE.. OR VLADIVOSTOCK???
COULD BE, STRONG AND HANDSOME.. I'VE BEEN AROUND!

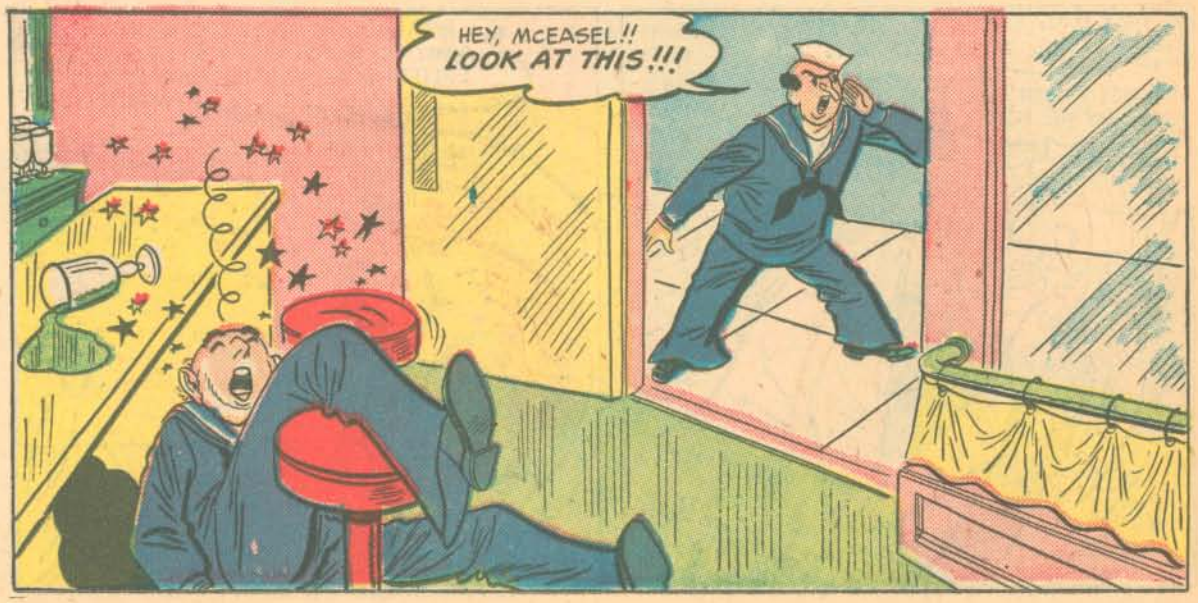
THAT NAVY UNIFORM!.. IT JUST DOES THINGS TO ME!!
IT'S BEEN DOIN' ALL RIGHT BY ME FOR THIRTY YEARS NOW!

HOW ABOUT US TWO SLIPPING AWAY TO SOME QUIET SPOT AND SPLITTING A DOUBLE - RICH CHOCOLATE MALTED???


WHISPER! WHISPER!

SLURP! SLURP!

PLUNK!


HEY, MCEASEL!! LOOK AT THIS!!!

SAAAY.... HOW'S ABOUT A LITTLE KISS...

HEY!! WHAT'S GOING ON?? THE PLANS... THEY'RE GONE!!!

MATTY HARRY NEVER FAILS.. SEX APPEAL CONQUERS ALL!

THESE PLANS ARE FOR A BATTLE SHMOOZER ALL RIGHT...

THE GOVERNMENT OF CLAUSTROPHOBIA WILL PAY PLENTY FOR THESE!!!

NOW WE DON'T NEED THAT LI'L SHMOO ANYMORE... HEY! HE'S GONE!!!

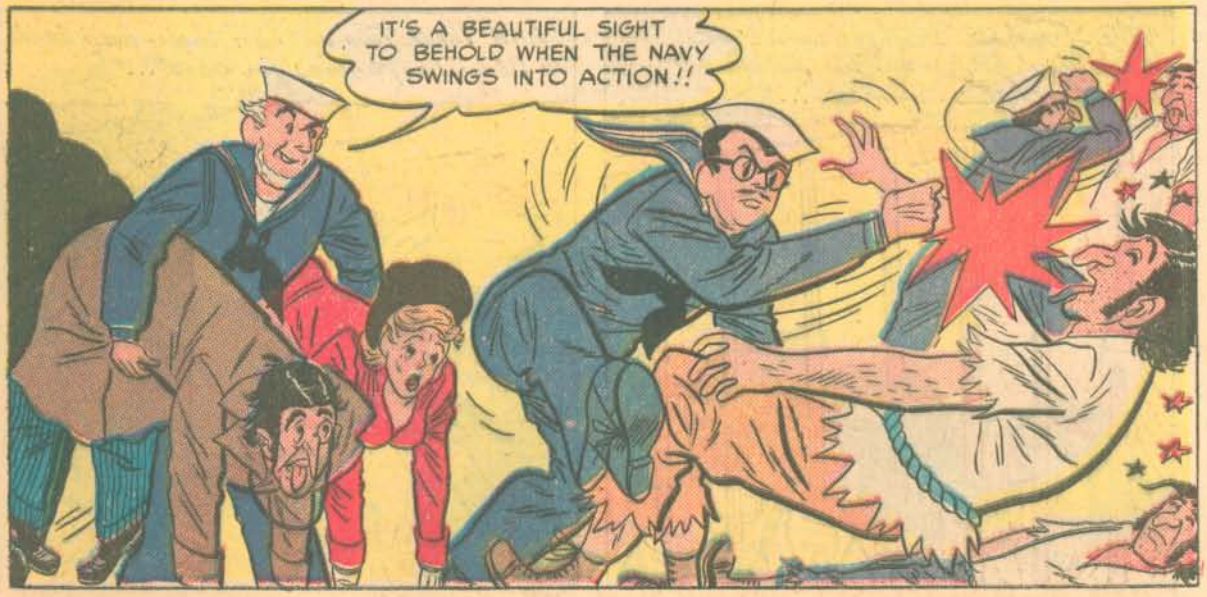
THERE HE GOES! AFTER HIM!!

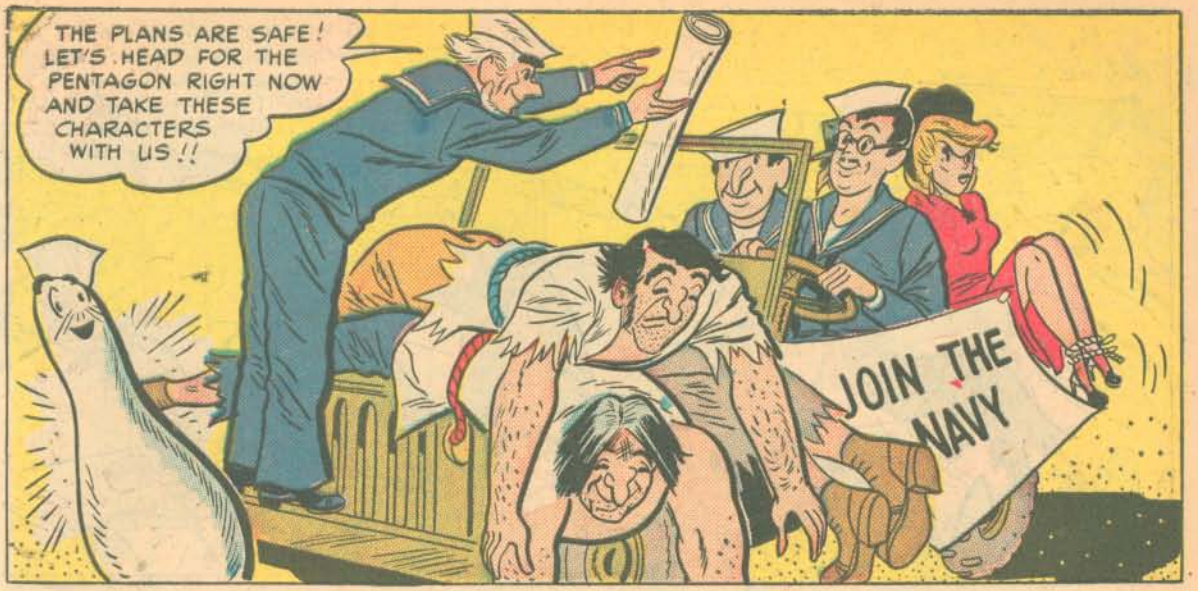
IT'S THOSE THREE BUMS AGAIN!!!
THE SCREWBALL BROTHERS!!
AND THAT'S THE GAL WHO SWIPED OUR PLANS!!
JOIN THE NAVY

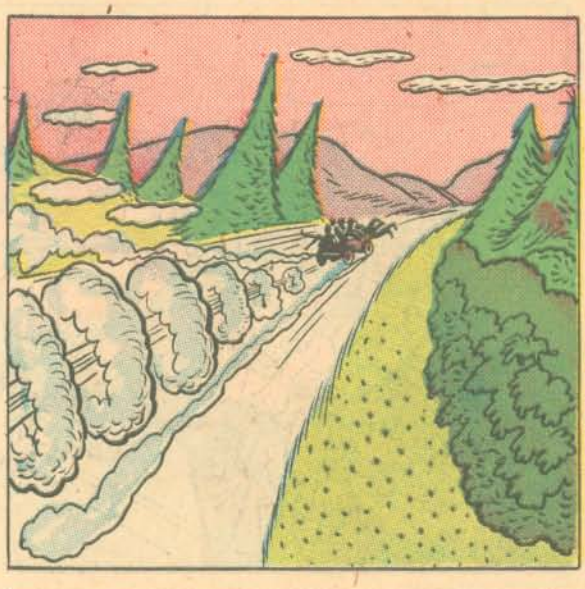
TAKE CARE O' THESE THREE, MEN, I'VE GOT SOME BUSINESS OF MY OWN...
SEEMS LIKE WE'VE DONE THIS ONCE BEFORE, EH McEASEL??
RIGHT!..AND IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE!

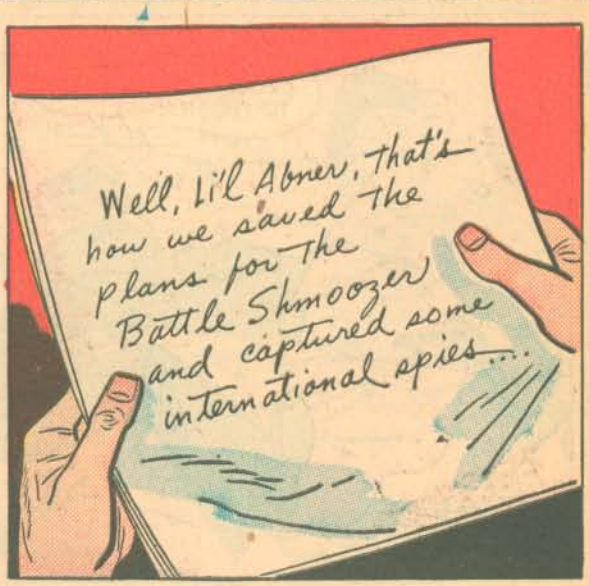
COME ON, SISTER...WE'VE GOT A DOUBLE-RICH CHOCOLATE MALTED TO FINISH!!

YOU MIGHT AS WELL COME ALONG TOO, MISTER!!


IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT TO BEHOLD WHEN THE NAVY SWINGS INTO ACTION!!


THE PLANS ARE SAFE! LET'S HEAD FOR THE PENTAGON RIGHT NOW AND TAKE THESE CHARACTERS WITH US!!
JOIN THE NAVY




Well, Li'l Abner, that's how we saved the plans for the Battle Shmoozer and captured some international spies....

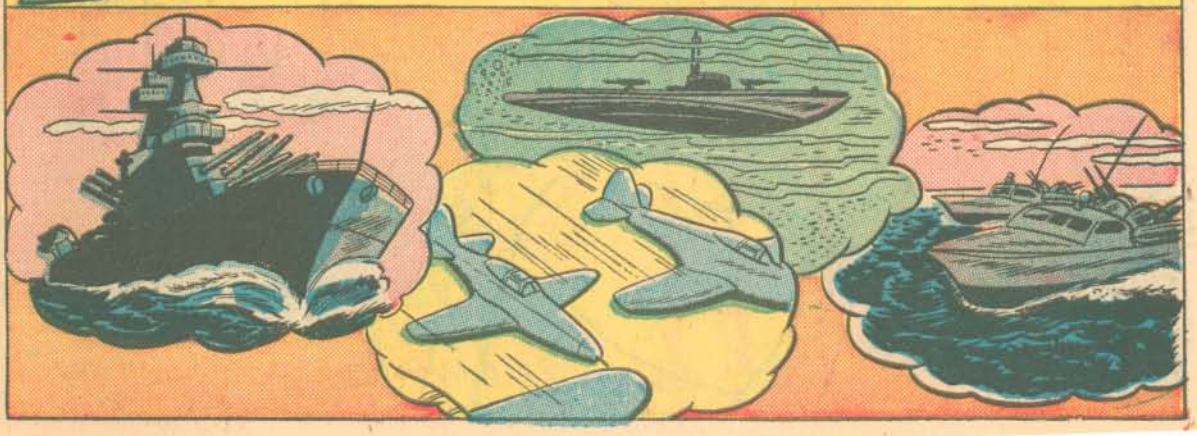
"The Screwball Brothers won't be annoyin' folks in Dogpatch or anyplace else anymore..."

"And these two are on their way back to Claustrophobia for good..."
SP

"At the Pentagon, they pinned medals on all of us and told us we were a credit to the United States Navy..."

ALWAYS READY,

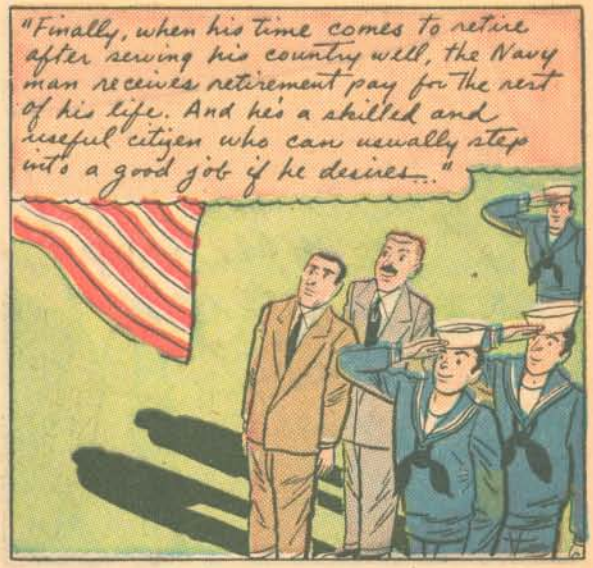
THE NAVY IS OUR BEST INSURANCE TO DISCOURAGE ANY COUNTRY FROM PICKING A FIGHT WITH US... AND IF WAR DOES COME, A STRONG NAVY KEEPS DESTRUCTION FROM OUR SHORES BY CARRYING THE BATTLE TO THE ENEMY IN **HIS** BACKYARD!



"To every young man who can meet her high standards, the U. S. Navy offers an honorable and richly rewarding career..."
JOIN THE NAVY

"Starting at the very bottom, a man with ambition can rise through the ranks, straight to the top. The Navy is no closed corporation!..."

"It's still true, too, that you can 'join the Navy and see the world.' And there are lot of interesting places to see..."


"Finally, when his time comes to retire after serving his country well, the Navy man receives retirement pay for the rest of his life. And he's a skilled and useful citizen who can usually step into a good job if he desires..."

HEY! LI'L ABNER!!
So it sure does make sense for a fellow to consider joining...

WELL, LI'L ABNER, WHAT DO YOU SAY???

WHAT DO I SAY?? I'M JOININ' UP WIF TH' U.S. NAVY RIGHT NOW!!! HOW 'BOUT YOU ALL??

JOIN THE UNITED STATES NAVY!

Printed by Toby Press, Inc., N. Y. NAVPERS 35403 3-29-50—2000M

AH'M IN TH' NAVY NOW!!